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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,786	04/17/2001	Akira Hara	2000-4007US2	6779

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EXAMINER
EICKHOLT, EUGENE H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2854	

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Applicati n No. 09/836,786	Applicant(s) HARA ET AL.	
	Examiner Eugene H Eickholt	Art Unit 2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *30* ~~MONTH~~ DAYS(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 April 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-29* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) *1-29* are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. *008/813535* .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Subgroup A directed to a take-up shaft:

Group A1, Figs 1-6;

Group A2, Figs. 7-9;

Group A3, Figs. 10-11.

Group A4, Figs. 12-13;

Group A5, Figs. 19-22B;

Group A6, Fig. 23;

Group A7, Fig. 24;

Group A8, Figs. 25-27;

Group A8, Figs 28-30;

Group A10, Figs 31-41;

Group A11, Fig. 42;

Group A12; Figs. 43A-43B;

Group A13; Figs. 44A-44B;

Group A14; Figs. 44A-45B;

Group A15; Figs. 46A-47B;

Group A16, Figs. 48A-48B;

Group A17, Figs. 49-50, 52;

Group A18; Figs. 53-54;

Group A19; Fig. 55;

Group A20; Figs. 61-62;

Group A21; Fig. 71A;

Group A22; Fig. 71B;

Group A23; Fig. 71C;

Group A24; figs. 91A-97E; and

Group A25; Figs. 98-100;

Selection of one of the above A1-A25 Groups is required.

A further subspecies election from Group B is required for the coupling bar embodiments as follows:

Group B1, Fig. 51;

Group B21, Fig. 56;

Group B3, Figs. 57-59; and

Group B4; Figs. 59A-60;

A further subspecies election from Group C is required for the cleaning fabric embodiments as follows:

Group C1, Figs. 63;

Group C2, Fig. 72A;

Group C3, Fig. 72B;

Group C4, Fig. 73B;

Group C5, Fig. 74A;

Group C6; Fig. 74B;

Group C7, Fig. 74C;

Group C8; Fig. 74D;

Group C9; Fig. 74E and

Group C10, Fig. 74F.

A further subspecies election from Group D is required for the fabric mounting element embodiments as follows:

Group D1, fig. 64;

Group D2, Fig. 65;

Group D3, Fig. 66;

Group D6, Figs. 69A-69C.

A further subspecies election from Group E is required from the fabric engagement element embodiments is required as follows:

Group E1, Fig. 73;

Group E2, Fig. 75;

Group E3, Fig. 76;

Group E4, Fig. 77;

Group E5, Fig. 78;

Group E6, Fig. 79;

Group E7, Fig. 80;

Group E8, Fig. 81;

Group E9, Fig. 82;

Group E10, Fig. 83;

Group E11, Fig. 84;

Group E12, Fig. 85; and

Group E13, Figs. 86-87.

A further subspecies election from Group F is required from the tool disengagement embodiments as follows:

Group F1, Figs. 88-89;

Group F2; Figs. 92-93; and

Group F3, Fig. 94.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no generic claims are present generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

A shortened statutory period of 30 days is set to respond.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Any inquiry concerning the specifics of this communication should be directed to Examiner Eickholt, who can be reached Tuesday through Thursday. Inquiries of a general nature should be directed to the TC2800 receptionist.

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Eugene H. Eickholt

EUGENE H. EICKHOLT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

7-30-03